



STATUTE

Voice of Planet 3

1. NAME AND OFFICE

- (i) The Association shall be called **Voice of Planet 3** hereinafter referred to as the “Network” or “Association” and shall be deemed to be constituted for all effects and purposes of law.
- (ii) The registered office of the Network shall be **SUNSET COURT, FLT. 3, TRIQ RADDET IR-ROTI, XEMXIJA, MALTA** or at such place as may from time to time be determined by the Council of the Association, hereinafter to be called “**The Council**”.
- (iii) Association members are to carry out their duties within the Association voluntarily and thus cannot be financially compensated for their work in the Association and are not entitled to any profits that might be obtained from activities organized by the same Association.
- (iv) The Association is governed by the Voluntary Organisations Act (Chapter 492 of the Laws of Malta).

2. **OBJECTIVES**

The objectives for which the Network is established are:

The religious belief community is a free cultural and information society independent of any party; with the foundational aspects based on the 10 commandments with emphasis on 4 - 10.

It affirms the right to physical, mental, and spiritual integrity and freedom of religious, philosophical and spiritual expression;

It shall aim at the dissemination, development and realization of these principles within the European Community and the International Organisation;

It protects individuals or associated persons from any barrier which restricts or discriminates against their religious freedom;

In the perspective of the Association, the effective realization of freedom of religious belief, protecting both believers and non-believers, is an important element on the way to a peaceful and universal League of Nations.

With the approval of the Executive Board, national and supranational public bodies may be established and representatives appointed in Malta, in the European Union and abroad.... With the approval of the Assembly, the Headquarters may be changed without altering the Constitution.

2. PURPOSE

2.1 Every human being has the right of inviolability of his body, mind and soul. No outside force - government, corporations, artificial intelligence (AI) or fellow human beings have the right to influence. This includes physical, psychological or mental interference.

2.2 Every person is free to decide which external influences he or she approves of and allows. These decisions are made on a case-by-case basis and cannot be generalized. Neither in relation to the individual nor in relation to the community.

2.3 Every person must be granted a place to meet with other members, to exchange ideas and to effectively support the association in its work. If there is no publicly accessible facility in the member's country, the member may apply to the Executive Committee for

the member's home to be recognized as a meeting place until a public meeting place has been created in the member's district. As well mobile vehicles (on land/water/air) - as long they are recognized by the council - are included. International coverage is aimed at.

2.4 Every person has the right to publicly practice and spread the confession of faith.

2.5 The association is a non-profit association and does not share profits or operating surpluses, even indirectly. All capital gains, if any, shall be used exclusively to achieve the purposes of the Association as expressed thereby.

3. MEMBERSHIP

- (i) Membership shall be open to natural persons.
- (ii) Each membership shall be represented by not more than one person.
- (iii) Application for membership shall be supported by two members of the Association. It shall be in writing, signed by the applicant and by his proposer and seconder, in such form and giving such particulars as the Council may decide from time to time and accompanied by the applicable enrollment and annual subscription fees.
- (iv) The Council shall have the power to accept or reject such application without the necessity of giving any reason, subject to the power of the Association in General Meeting to overrule any such decision of the Council by a simple majority of all the members of the Association present and voting.
- (v) Each member shall on being admitted to membership pay such enrollment fee and annual subscription fee as may, from time to time, be recommended by the Council and approved at the Annual General Meeting of the Association by a simple majority vote of all members present and voting.
- (vi) Annual Subscription shall cover a calendar year. The said subscription shall be payable on or before the preceding 31st October. If a member is admitted to membership in any year at any time after the 1st January, the subscription fee payable by that member for the year shall be calculated pro rata for each month of membership, inclusive of the month in which membership is approved.
- (vii) Once a member is accepted into membership, she/he will continue to be a member as long as the annual subscription is paid, when due. If a member fails to pay his subscription fee within two (2) months from the date on which it is due, he shall not be entitled to vote at any General Meeting held thereafter; and

if he fails to pay within three (3) months from the date when payment is due, he shall be struck off the Register of Members and forfeit all rights and privileges as a member of the Association. A lapsed member will be eligible to apply to re-join the group by paying all past dues. Such application will be treated as a new application for membership.

- (viii) Any member wishing to resign from the Association shall give three (3) months notice in writing to the Secretary General. Any member so resigning shall cease to have any further interest or claim on the funds of the Association and shall be liable to pay all subscriptions and levies that may be due and payable up to the 31st December of the year in which shall have given notice of resignation.
- (ix) The names and addresses of members shall be entered in a Register of Members which shall be kept at the registered office of the Association in line with Data Protection regulations, regarding which members give consent for their personal information to be held for administrative and internal information purposes and any other use indicated by this Statute or the General Assembly. This Register may be inspected by members during office opening hours or as agreed with the Secretary General or any appointed delegate.
- (x) Every member shall be entitled to receive free of charge a copy of the Statute of the Association. Additional copies will be supplied at the price to be fixed by the Council.
- (xi) The Association has the power to terminate the participation of any member that is no longer considered to be qualified to be a member of the Association.

4. OBLIGATIONS OF THE MEMBERS

All members shall agree to conform to and be bound by the rules of the Association and in default they shall be liable to expulsion from membership of the Association as specified in section 5 paragraph (i) below.

5. CONDUCT OF MEMBERS

The General Assembly may wish to adopt a Code of Ethics which shall be adopted by the General Assembly at an Annual or Extraordinary General Meeting. If any member commits any breach of the rules of the Association or declines to comply with any decision or directive of the Council or of the Association taken in conformity with those rules or acts in a manner which, in the opinion of the Council, is prejudicial to the interest of the Association, he shall be liable to expulsion or suspension or to such other

disciplinary measures as the Council may decide; subject, however, to the member's right to be heard at a Council meeting called for this purpose, and subject to any decision taken by a simple majority of all members present and voting in a General Meeting of the Association.

6. MANAGEMENT

- (i) The association shall be autonomous and voluntary.
- (ii) The affairs of the Association shall be conducted by Council which shall consists of at least three members elected at the Annual General Meeting:
- (iii) Staff members of the Association shall be appointed by the Council under such terms and conditions as the Council may determine provided that the person so appointed shall not be an eligible member of the Association and shall not have a direct financial interest in the sector. The appointment shall be for a period of 2 years and can be renewed without any limit of times as the Council deems necessary.
- (iv) With the exception of the Staff members, the members of the Council must be either individual members of the Association or recognized legal representatives of members as outlined in Para 3(ii). Council members shall cease to be members of the Council if they personally cease to represent the member they had hitherto represented, or if the operation itself represented by such member ceases to be a member of the Association.
- (v) In the conduct of these affairs and in the exercise of any power conferred on the Council, the Council shall be subject to the overriding authority of the Association in a General Meeting.
- (vi) The members of the Council shall hold office until the election of the new Council at the next Annual General Meeting unless all or any of them are earlier removed from office by a resolution taken at an Extraordinary General Meeting called for the purpose and at which the member or members mentioned in the resolution are given an opportunity to be heard.
- (vii) Any vacancy on the Council which may occur from resignation or other cause, including that envisaged under paragraph (v) above during the said member's term of office shall be filled by that member who had most votes among those not elected in the General Elections, as the case may be, returning the retiring member of the Council. If no such "runner up" exists, a by-election shall be held.
- (viii) Provided that if a vacancy occurs in a seat vacated by a Council Member returned in a General Election, the "runner up" in that General Election,

shall have the option to fill the seat so vacated. If no runner-up exists in that Special Election, a by-election shall be held.

- (ix) Council members shall also forfeit their seat on the Council if they absent themselves from three (3) consecutive Council meetings without cause to the satisfaction of the Council. It's the council decision to fill or not this vacancy.
- (x) The Council shall consist of not less than 3 Members and not more than 7 (seven) Members of the Organisation who shall be elected every year at a General Meeting of The Organisation. The elected members and shall appoint from among its members a Chairman, a Secretary and a Treasurer. The Council may also apt to appoint a Communications Officer. The Council shall also appoint or confirm those members of the Council or other persons who are to represent the Association on any Council, Committee or on any other body whenever the Association is entitled to be so represented. The member that is chosen as the Chairman from amongst the members cannot hold this post for longer than two (2) consecutive terms. If no member accepts the position of Chairman, the Council has the right to choose a suitable person, that will not necessarily be a member of the Association, to fill this post.
- (xi) The legal representation of the Association shall be vested in the Chairman and the Secretary. From time to time, the Council can delegate other members to represent the Council in general or for a specific objective. More than one person is allowed to represent the Council either jointly or alternatively, according to what the Council decides.
- (xii) The Council may delegate all or any of its powers and shall appoint other officials to assist the Council for such period and on such conditions as it may deem appropriate. In the absence of the Secretary, the Council may nominate one of its members to carry out the duties of the Secretary.
- (xiii) The Council shall have power to co-opt unto itself such additional members as it may consider necessary, but these additional co-opted members shall have no voting rights.
- (xiv) The Council may appoint sub-Committees and 'ad hoc' Committees, as it may consider necessary. Persons appointed member of such committees need not necessarily be members of the Council.
- (xv) Any two persons nominated by the Council shall sign and execute all deeds, documents and other instruments purporting to bind the Association or do all matters and things required or deemed necessary to comply with the requirements of the law.
- (xvi) The Council shall have power to make by-laws not inconsistent with these rules to regulate its own proceedings and the proceedings of General

Meetings and to provide for any matter not covered by these rules provided that such by-laws are subsequently approved by a simple majority vote of all members present and voting at a General Meeting of the Association.

- (xvii) No person shall stand as a candidate for the General Election of the Maltese Islands and Local Councils as long as he/she is a member of the Council.

7. COUNCIL MEETING AND GENERAL MEETING

- (i) The Council shall meet at least once every month. A meeting of the Council may be called by the Chairman at any time. It shall also be convened on a request in writing, signed by at least three (3) members of the Council, specifying the objects of the Meetings, and deposited at the Registered office of the Association. Whenever such a request is made, the meeting shall be called within five (5) days of the receipt of the request unless the signatories thereto agree to a later date. The Council has the faculty to allow a person(s) that has an interest in a subject that will be discussed at a particular Council meeting to attend this meeting.
- (ii) An Annual General Meeting shall take place each year, not later than the end of February of each year and at such time and place as the Council may determine, in order to:
- (a) Approve the Secretary General's Report
 - (b) Approve the Financial Statements by the Treasurer
 - (c) Elect the members of the Council for the following year.
 - (d) Appoint or confirm one or more auditors.
 - (e) Revise or confirm the enrolment and the annual subscription fees applicable for the calendar year in which the Annual General Meeting is held.
 - (f) Discuss other matters specified in the agenda.
- (ii) Extraordinary General Meetings shall be held at such time and place as shall be fixed by the Council; and shall be called either on the initiative of the Council or by request in writing of one fifth of the members of the Association.
- (iii) The request shall state the objects of the meeting and shall be signed by the persons making it and deposited with the Secretary General or at the Registered Office of the Association.
- (iv) If the Council fails within fourteen (14) days from the date of the deposit of the request to call a meeting, the signatories thereof may themselves convene a meeting in the same manner, as near as possible to that in which General Meetings are ordinarily convened.

(v) Except in very urgent cases, notice of every meeting of the Council and of every General Meeting shall be given to all members of the Council and of the Association, as the case may be, at least seven (7) days before the date fixed for the meeting; and such notice shall specify the matters to be discussed at the meeting and also the place, the day and the time fixed for the meeting. It is, however, provided that the accidental omission to give notice of a meeting to, or the non receipt of notice of a meeting by any person entitled to receive notice shall not invalidate the proceedings of that meeting.

(vi) At all Council meetings and at all General Meetings of the Association each member of the Council or of the Association shall have one vote. The Chairman, or in his absence the vice-Chairman, shall preside the Council meetings. The Secretary General shall preside General Meetings and in his absence a person nominated by the Council shall preside the meetings.

Members of the Association may exercise their right to attend and vote at General Meetings either personally, or in the case of member Firms or Partnerships through their recognized Legal Representatives, or by means of a proxy being any person duly appointed in writing.

(vii) At all Council Meetings and at all General Meetings, the Chairman of the Council may only reserve his right to a casting vote in the event of equality of votes, but in case a member of the Association is acting as Chairman of the meeting he may elect either to exercise his vote as a member or to reserve his right to a casting vote in the event of equality of votes.

(viii) Save as otherwise provided the decisions of the Council and of the General meeting shall be taken by a majority of the members present that is by an Ordinary resolution provided that:

(a) In the case of a Council Meeting, the quorum necessary for the transaction of business shall be of four members.

(b) In the case of a General Meeting, if within fifteen (15) minutes from the time appointed, one fifth of the members of the Association are not present, the meeting if convened upon the request of members shall be dissolved; in any other case it shall stand adjourned to fifteen minutes later or to such other time or to such other day, time and place as the members present may decide, and, a meeting so adjourned shall be held irrespective of the number of members present.

Any decision to revoke, alter, amend or add to these rules or to dissolve the Association shall be taken only at a General Meeting convened for the purposes, and provided the decision is taken by an extraordinary resolution carried by a majority of not less than two thirds of the members present and voting.

(c) Voting takes place by the raising of hands, however should a Council member object, voting will then take place secretly. Voting for the Council positions

should take place secretly unless members of the Council unanimously decide otherwise.

- (ix) Proposals for changes to the Statute shall be dealt with during General Meetings. These are to be submitted to the Secretary at least 4(four) weeks before the date of the General Meeting. The Secretary is to circulate the proposals received among all members at least 2 (two) weeks before the date of the General Meeting. Proposals for changes to the statute shall be put to the vote during the General Meeting after allowing adequate time for their discussion. Changes to the statute shall be adopted if passed by a simple majority of votes.

8. GENERAL ELECTIONS

The procedure for the General Election of Council Members shall be as follows:

The Secretary General shall, at least three (3) weeks before the date of the election, appoint two (2) tellers from among members not contesting any election at that meeting, to assist the him/her in receiving nominations and in the counting and checking of the ballot papers. If for any reason the teller(s) does/do not accept this role, resign, is/are not qualified or in the opinion of the Secretary General the teller(s) is/are not in a position to continue their duties, the Secretary General can appoint other teller(s)

Fifteen (15) days before the date of the election, the Secretary General shall call for nomination for the General Elections from all members. All nominations have to be duly seconded by any other member.

In the event that in the course of the term in office, a post or posts in the Council become vacant, an Election to fill the vacant posts based on the same rules applying to the General Election shall be held.

Only those members who have paid in full all membership fees due to date, may be nominated to contest Elections, and be eligible to vote in them.

Nominations for Elections shall be submitted to the Chairperson of the General Meeting at least 7 (Seven) calendar days prior to the date of the Election

Upon expiry of the deadline for the submission of nominations, the Chairperson of the General Meeting shall inform the Tellers and all those entitled to vote with the list of candidates received.

Voting shall take place under the guidance of the Tellers, in secret and in writing on the official voting documents prepared for the election.

As soon as the time allocated for voting is over, the Tellers will proceed to count votes cast and produce a report that shall be presented to the Chairperson of the General Meeting.

The 3 (three) candidates with the highest number of votes shall be declared elected and shall form part of the Council for 2 (two) years commencing from the day following the election. The number of Council members may be increased by the General Meeting by a simple majority.

In case of a tie in the result, a by-election will be held.

9. FINANCE

- (i) The funds of the Association shall not be used for any purpose other than the attainment of the objects of the Association.
- (ii) Should the funds of the Association be insufficient for the proper attainment of the objects of the Association the Council shall have the power to raise the amount so required, including the subscription annual fee, in any manner it shall deem appropriate or levy such amount from the members.
- (iii) Such amount of the funds of the Association as the Council may deem expedient shall be placed on deposit with the Bankers of the Association or otherwise invested in the name of the Association.
- (iv) The Council shall cause proper Books of Accounts to be kept, giving a true and fair view of the state of the Association's Affairs.
- (v) Once at least in every year the accounts of the Association shall be examined and the correctness of the said accounts by internal reviewers
- (vi) The Treasurer shall each year prepare a Financial Statement reviewed and lay it before the Association at its Annual General Meeting.
- (vii) The Association shall submit its annual returns and respective ancillary documentation to the Commissioner of Voluntary Organisations in compliance with the relevant Act.
- (viii) All cheques and similar Bank Documents shall be signed by any two (2) members chosen by the Council.
- (ix) All books and registers of the Association shall be kept at its Registered Office and shall be opened to the inspection of the members or their duly authorized representatives free of charge at all reasonable times.

- (x) The annual accounts of the organization are to be drawn up for a financial period commencing on 1st January and ending on the 31st December of each year as prescribed by law.

10. DISSOLUTION CLAUSE

- (i) If at any time the Organisation in a General Meeting shall approve by a majority comprising seventy-five per cent (75%) of all the registered Members entitled to vote, a resolution of its intention to dissolve, the Executive Committee shall take immediate steps to inform the VO Office of the intention of the members to dissolve and thereafter, proceed to settle any debts, and dispose of the monies and property remaining as determined by this statute and the General Meeting; and thereupon the Organisation shall for all purposes be dissolved.
- (ii) In the event of dissolution of the Organisation, any remaining funds and/or property shall be placed in the custody of a selected person as an ad-interim curator of these assets until a new organisation intended to promote the same aims is constituted (in any way by not later than two years as established at Law).
- (iii) In the event of dissolution of the Organisation, the outgoing Executive Committee is to inform the Commissioner for Voluntary Organisations within 15 days of the decision taken to dissolve.

Statute approved at the General Assembly held on the 28.04.2021. Amended at the 22.06.2021

President: Matthias Feindert ID-Card: 0111067A Signature:.....
Secretary: Daniel John Falzon ID-Card: 0649918L Signature:.....
Treasurer: Birgit Viett ID-Card: 0105577A Signature:.....

Malta, 22.06.2021